

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 30, 2010

The Honorable Daniel K. Inouye
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
United States Capitol, Room S-128
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Appropriations
United States Capitol, Room S-146A
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Robert C. Byrd
Chairman
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Senate Dirksen Office Building, Room 340
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable George Voinovich
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Senate Dirksen Office Building, Room 350
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairmen and Ranking Members:

As the Committee begins its consideration of the FY11 Homeland Security Appropriations bill, we write to request support for the State of Oregon. We fully support the President's budget for projects in Oregon and the Pacific Northwest, as well as the additional requests we are submitting. **Please note that these projects are listed in no particular order.**

Project Name: Milton-Freewater Emergency Levee Project

Request: \$849,500

Project Location: Umatilla County, Pendleton, OR

Project Description: The Nursery Bridge Diversion Dam, in combination with downstream levees, provides flood control for the City of Milton-Freewater and the surrounding agricultural land. The Dam consists of two permanent concrete gravity dams. The upstream dam, the larger of the two, is approximately 13 feet high, while the downstream dam is 5.5 feet high. The 70-foot span between the two dams functions as a stilling basin. Half of the 30-inch concrete slab at the toe of the larger dam has eroded completely through. This continuing erosion endangers the foundation and integrity of the dam, and has resulted in an "Unacceptable" rating by the Army Corps of Engineers. If no action is taken to prevent further erosion, the failure of the dam is imminent, and could lead to flooding of the residential and commercial portions of Milton-Freewater. Additionally, failure of the dam could destroy numerous downstream levees that provide flood control for the City of Milton-Freewater. Structures in danger of flooding include portions of Oregon-Washington Highway 11, local roads, Eastside School, a trailer park, and numerous private residences. Funds will be used to repair and replace existing structures to mitigate dam failure.

Project Name: Development of advanced civil heavy lift helicopter disaster response and recovery capability

Request: \$4,600,000

Project Location: Oregon Emergency Management Department, Salem, OR

Project Description: The three-phase plan will include the following initiatives categorized by priority: Phase 1: (1 year to completion) Funds will be spent to develop an up-to-date Civil Disaster Airlift Plan with the Oregon Emergency Management Department to eventually (after first year) expand to more than 25 other State agencies, as well as Federal and State Urban Search and Rescue teams. Phase 1 will also include response and recovery exercises and readiness training for emergency debris clearance, floodfighting, hazard mitigation, and logistical support. Phase 2: (2 years to completion) Funds will be used for research and development of advanced civil heavylift helicopter response technologies such as multiple victim evacuation and transport, ice jam/flood mitigation, tactical law enforcement and emergency response personnel transport, aerial decontaminant application in response to CBRNE incidents. The objective for this phase will be completed, FAA certified, mission components. Phase 3: (2 years to completion) Funds will be used for outreach to State and Federal Agencies nationwide and for coordination of interagency support and shared resource agreements between the agencies. The competitive nature of private sector companies combined with the advanced skill set required for competitive private sector aerial heavy lift work assures best value and continued process improvement.

Project Name: Emergency Standby Generator for Umpqua River Lighthouse

Request: \$300,000

Project Location: Douglas County, Roseburg, OR

Project Description: These funds will allow no-interruptible Coast Guard lighthouse operations. There is a demonstrated need for emergency power evidenced by an average of 6 power outages per year. These power outages create a hazardous situation for mariners at sea for the duration of the outage. Power outages limit the ability of mariners to enter and leave the harbor and result in economic disruption of the harbor.

Project Name: USCG Assisted Target Detection System for Maritime Border Surveillance and Enforcement

Request: \$2,000,000

Project Location: FLIR Systems, Inc., Wilsonville, OR

Project Description: This system incorporates a Star SAFIRE HD gyro-stabilized sensor with both mid-wave infrared and color cameras and a small electronics unit. The electronics unit processes both infrared and color imagery to automatically search for objects of interest. The sensor will use a wide field of view to search for objects and provide good area coverage. When a potential target is found, the system will alert the operator, zoom in on the target and acquire a high definition, super resolution, still image. The operator will have the capability to examine the image and transmit it, with relevant ancillary data, to a central facility over a low bandwidth wireless link. The operator will also have the option to break automatic search at any time to examine areas of interest. FLIR Systems will employ a multi-phase development plan to mitigate risk. The first phase, algorithm development, will involve the use of recorded video to refine algorithms to detect targets of interest and evaluate algorithm efficacy. During the second prototype phase, the detection algorithms will be ported to a flyable platform capable of

executing the algorithms in real time. The object detection performance will be evaluated with a flight test using FLIR System's aircraft. Full integration and testing will be completed after algorithm performance has been successfully demonstrated.

Project Name: Emergency Relief Shelters for West Coast Region

Request: \$4,640,000

Project Location: Oregon National Guard, Salem, OR

Project Description: Funds will be used to purchase 1000 Temporary Relief Composite Dome Shelters to stockpile at Christmas Valley, Oregon by the Oregon National Guard (ONG). These shelters will help the region prepare for an emergency disaster in the Pacific Northwest Region. The ONG will donate the property to store the shelters, and will be ready and trained to deliver the shelters to the targeted area. These domes will house families of up to 6 people each, and are flexible so they may also be attached for larger accommodations. This is important for Oregon's security, and to increase survival rates of disaster victims. This effort is in preparation for an impending Cascadia Fault Earthquake off the coast of Oregon, which has an expected magnitude greater than 8.0. This project is also good for small businesses because it would create new, green technology jobs. When used properly, the dome buildings leave a near "net zero carbon foot print" because they are reusable. After initial use, the domes would be dismantled and stored for the next disaster or terrorist attack.

Project Name: State Mobile Emergency Command Post

Request: \$750,000

Project Location: Oregon National Guard - Salem, OR

Project Description: The use of these dollars will provide Oregon Citizens with a mobile command, control, communications, and leadership capability that can be brought to the area of a disaster to support the local jurisdictions in their response and recovery efforts. This project also supports the Governor if he/she is displaced from their normal duty location so they are still able to operate Oregon's government.

Project Name: Disaster Relief Supply Centers

Request: \$900,000

Project Location: Oregon National Guard, Salem, OR

Project Description: The funds will be used to construct stand-alone buildings and mobile trailers, which will contain critical response and relief supplies that will be determined by local jurisdictions and the American Red Cross. If funding is secured, the first phase would be devoted to coordinating the use of land or existing buildings and conducting hazard analysis of sighting structures or trailers. Second year funding would be dedicated to filling the facilities and trailers, and coordinating training of equipment and procedures. This project will help ensure that disaster survivors will have initial relief supplies to provide safety, shelter, food, water, and basic supplies in the initial days of a disaster.

Project Name: Lakeside Multi-Agency Emergency Operations Center

Request: \$4,640,000

Project Location: Lakeside Rural Fire Protection District #4 - Lakeside, OR

Project Description: Funding for this project would be used to construct a new Multi-Agency Emergency Operations Center. It will include cohabitation with the Siuslaw National Forest,

City of Lakeside, Coos County Sheriff's Office, and Lakeside Fire District, and will be the culmination of years of work. This project will be the final piece to manage emergencies in an isolated portion of the central Oregon Coast. This facility will meet the needs of the City of Lakeside, City of Winchester Bay, City of Reedsport, Coos County, Siuslaw National Forest, and Seven Fire Districts. The co-habitation agreements between agencies demonstrates the ability of all levels of government to work together to maintain cost savings to taxpayers. Lakeside Fire District #4 is a public fire district located in Douglas and Coos Counties. It services 19.5 square miles and approximately 5,000 permanent residents with a population swelling to over 9,000 during weekends, holidays, and summer months. It also provides emergency management to unprotected areas located within the region. Its automatic and mutual aid agreements obligate the district to serve 900 square miles and approximately 73,000 residents. It is the largest urban area on the Oregon Coast, and responsible for the protection of critical infrastructure. Additionally, U.S. Highway 101 traffic flows through the center of the district. The primary purpose of this facility would be emergency management for natural disasters, disaster relief efforts, fires, rescue, EMS, Haz-Mat, and aircraft emergencies.

Project Name: East Lents Floodplain Mitigation

Request: \$849,500

Project Location: City of Portland, OR

Project Description: The East Lents Floodplain Mitigation Project will restore natural floodplain functions and add flood storage, reduce the frequency of flooding on area homes and businesses, improve habitat for fish, birds and other wildlife, recreate stream channels and shade the creek, help meet State of Oregon water quality standards, address requirements of the federal Endangered Species Act (ESA), and help revitalize the neighborhoods and economy of the Lents area. Flooding in this area occurs, on average, every other year. Mitigation will allow for private investment in redevelopment projects. The City of Portland received a \$2.7 million federal grant for a different project in the same section of the Watershed through the Pre-Disaster mitigation competitive grant program in 2005. Preliminary project plans estimate the following allocation of project costs: fill removal (25%), habitat enhancement (15%), revegetation (20%), design (30%) and project management and permits (10%).

Project Name: Create Initial design for the remodel of the Oregon Military Department's Joint operations center and state emergency management operations center

Request: \$500,000

Project Location: Oregon Military Department, Salem, OR

Project Description: This project would allow the Oregon Military Department to complete an initial design to reallocate and combine work spaces for the joint operations center, the state emergency coordination center and associated full-time employees. These two Military Department activities are the primary 24X7X365 operations center for information collection and management in support of the Adjutant General and the Governor.

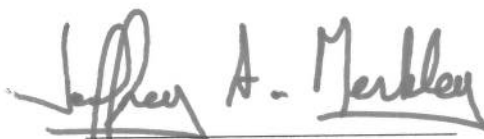
We certify that neither ourselves nor our immediate families have a pecuniary interest, consistent with the requirements of Paragraph 9 of rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, in any congressionally directed spending item that we requested in this letter. We further certify that we have posted a description of the items requested on our official websites, along with the accompanying justification.

Thank you for your consideration of these worthy projects. We appreciate your strong and continued leadership and look forward to working with you this year on funding vital to our nation. If you have any questions, please contact Isaiah Akin in Senator Wyden's office at 224-5244 or Courtney Thompson in Senator Merkley's office at 224-3753.

Sincerely,



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Jeff Merkley
United States Senator